

In-Fur-Nation

Your Guide to the World of Furry Fandom

Volume 16, Number 4

All The News We Get, We Print!

Fall, 2005

"No more crop circles!" "Aw, other aliens get to make them..." – Nani and Jumba, from Disney's *Lilo & Stitch 2*.

Summer turns to fall, and the winds of change are about...

As small as it may feel to say this, at this point, we feel it's important: All of us at In-Fur-Nation and Furry Stuff wish to extend our heartfelt sympathies to those who have lost property, livelihood, or lives as a result of hurricanes Katrina and Rita. To say nothing of the more recent earthquakes that have struck central Asia — we're in California, we can relate. Once again we're reminded that, despite all our power and knowledge, our planet is still a big, powerful place.

If you haven't checked it out yet: Furry fandom has its own version of the Wikipedia! WikiFur (http://furry.wikicities.com/wiki/WikiFur_Central) has over 2000 entries now of furry items, furry events, and furry people, all submitted by the fans themselves. Hey, we're even in there! Cool.



All of Hollywood is eagerly anticipating the release of the last two sure-fire blockbuster movies of the year, this December: *The Chronicles of Narnia – The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe* (from Walt Disney Pictures), and **Peter Jackson's** re-make of *King Kong* (from Universal Studios). And, of course, in anticipation of those releases, a whole flood of tie-in merchandise is about to come thundering in to a store near you — much of it of interest to furry fans. Just take a look around — you'll have no trouble finding it.

Going to see the new Wallace and Gromit movie *Curse of the Were-Rabbit* turns out to be an even more furry experience than you think it's going to be. That's because the feature film includes not one but two extras of furry fan interest: A trailer for next year's CGI film *Over the Hedge*, and a brand new short film featuring the popular penguins from this summer's *Madagascar*. And hey, speaking of that film...

< From www.movieweb.com, September 14, 2005:>
DreamWorks Animation CEO **Jeffrey Katzenberg** announced today that the studio will produce a sequel to the computer-animated comedy *Madagascar*, which has now passed the \$500-million mark at the worldwide box office, making it the company's most successful original movie ever. Katzenberg also announced that **Ben Stiller**, **Chris Rock**, and **Jada Pinkett Smith**, who starred in the original *Madagascar* as Alex the Lion, Marty the Zebra and Gloria the Hippo, respectively, will be reprising their roles. He said he was looking forward to other original cast members returning to their roles for the sequel. The sequel will once again be produced by **Mireille Soria** and co-directed by **Eric Darnell** and **Tom McGrath**.

From-out-of-Nowhere Department: *Hoodwinked* is a new CGI animated comedy from the Weinstein Brothers Company — the first film for the boys since the re-organization of Miramax, in fact. When the funny-animal police break up a domestic disturbance at Grandma's house, they discover that Red Riding Hood, Grandma, the Big Bad Wolf, and the Woodsman all have their own versions of what happened — and someone needs to get to the bottom of this! Featuring the voices of **Glen Close**, **Anne Hathaway**, **David Ogden Stiers**, **Jim Belushi**, **Patrick Warburton**, and **Anthony Anderson**, look for it in theaters starting December 23.

Word is out that, after an eternity in "Development Hell", the 2D animated film version of *Curious George* will finally be making it to theaters in 2006. Starring the voices of **Will Ferrell** (as "The Man in the Yellow Hat"), **Dick Van Dyke**, **Eugene Levy**, and **Drew Barrymore**, the film hits the screen next February, thanks to Universal Pictures and Imagine Entertainment.

Teaser trailers are out on line and in theaters for *Ice Age 2: The Meltdown*, coming out next March. This time around, our friends the mastodon (**Ray Romano**), the sloth (**John Leguizamo**), and the sabertooth (**Denis Leary**) struggle to warn their valley of impending doom as the Ice Age draws to a close. As you may recall, a March premier date did very well for the first Ice Age movie...

Breaking news, from the Sci Fi Wire at www.scifi.com: Fox is planning a trilogy of films based on the *Eragon* fantasy novels by 21-year-old **Christopher Paolini**. Variety reported. The first film, *Eragon*, will commence production on Aug. 1, with a cast that includes **Jeremy Irons**, **John Malkovich**, **Djimon Hounsou** and **Ed Speleers** as the title character. The story centers on young Eragon, who one day finds a blue stone he believes he can sell for enough food to last his family through the winter. But the stone is actually an egg, and when a dragon hatching emerges, Eragon is suddenly caught up in a world of destiny, power and magic. Sooner than he thinks, Eragon must become a Dragon Rider and battle the evil King Galbatorix, the trade paper reported. Veteran visual-effects supervisor **Stefen Fangmeier** (*Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events*) will direct, from a script by **Peter Buchman** (*Jurassic Park III*), which was subsequently rewritten by the *Planet of the Apes* team of **Larry Konner** and **Mark Rosenthal**. Fox is eyeing a June 16, 2006, release.

Later next year, look for *The Ant Bully*, a new CGI adventure/comedy from Warner Brothers. A young boy takes out his frustrations by stomping ant colonies in his back yard – until a wily ant wizard hits him with a magic potion, and shrinks him down to ant size. Now the boy must earn his freedom by rebuilding the colony's home from the ground up – literally! This one features quite a voice cast, including **Nicolas Cage**, **Julia Roberts**, **Meryl Streep**, **Paul Giamatti**, **Lily Tomlin**, **Cheri Oteri**, **Alan Cumming**, **Regina King**, and **Ricardo Montalban**. Look for it in August 2006.

And finally, next winter, we have *Happy Feet*. Or at least the penguins do! First we get the word about surfing penguins (*Surf's Up* in 2007), and now we get – dancing penguins! Or at least one... seems that a misfit penguin discovers that dancing might save him from the embarrassment of not singing with the skill of all his fellows. Starring the voices of **Magda Szubanski**, **Hugh Jackman**, **Nicole Kidman**, **Robin Williams**, and **Elijah Wood**, this CGI comedy comes to theaters in November 2006, from Warner Brothers.

< From <http://www.cabletvtalk.com>, September 9, 2005: >
Disney Channel Worldwide has ordered a second season of the animated comedy/adventure series *American Dragon: Jake Long* from Walt Disney Television Animation. Emmy Award nominee **Steve Loter** (*Kim Possible*) has been named executive producer and director, joining executive producers **Matt Negrete** and **Eddie Guzelian**. The announcement was made today by **Gary Marsh**, President, Entertainment, Disney Channel Worldwide. Actor **Kyle Massey** (*That's So Raven*) joins the voice cast as a recurring character.

The new release of Disney's *Tarzan* Special Edition DVD is creating controversy. For one thing, Disney had originally planned to release a 2-disc collector's set, featuring lots of extras and special features on the second disc. Plans changed, and the new release is only a single disc with a few new features – in the United States. The release in the rest of the world features the 2-disc set as originally planned. Among the extras that have been included in the US version

are two previews of furry fandom note: The new remake of *The Shaggy Dog*, starring **Tim Allen**; and the upcoming CGI film *The Wild*, set to be released to theaters in April of 2006.

First word, from www.gatheringofthegargoyles.com: On December 6, 2005, *Gargoyles* Season 2, Volume 1 becomes available on DVD. This 3-disc box set includes the first 26 episodes of the second season, from "Leader of the Pack" through "Kingdom." It also includes an audio commentary on all four parts of "City of Stone" by **Greg Weisman**, **Frank Paur** and **Michael Reaves**; episode introductions by **Greg Weisman**; and the *Gathering of the Cast and Crew* featurette.

Anime of furry note is always a good thing. *Pom Poko*, created by **Hiyao Miyazaki**'s Studio Ghibli, is finally available on DVD in North America, thanks to Buena Vista Home Entertainment. The transforming tanuki (raccoon dogs) of Japan must bring all of their magic to light if they're to prevent the destruction of their forest home by developers.

Also on the shelves now is *Creature Comforts*, the DVD collection of the TV series based on **Wallace and Gromit** creator **Nick Park**'s Oscar-winning short film. For each episode, ordinary people around Great Britain were interviewed on a variety of topics, and then various animals animated in clay to their voices! Released by Columbia-Tristar Home Video.

Cosgrove-Hall (creators of *Danger Mouse*) and Capital Entertainment present the complete first season of *Count Duckula* on DVD. Turned vegetarian by an injection of ketchup (you read that right), the duck-billed vampire travels magically around the world on amazing adventures.

Redwall: The Movie is a compilation of the first episodes of the *Redwall* TV series (created by Nelvana, and based on the best-selling books by **Brian Jacques**). Already available in Europe, the film comes out on DVD in the USA in November.

Just in time for the 40th anniversary of the show's release (not to mention Christmas!) comes the *Kimba the White Lion Ultra Edition – Remastered* DVD box set. It features all 52 original color episodes fully restored, plus an additional bonus DVD with lots of extras. Want to find out more? If you're on the Web, you might want to check out www.kimbaworld.com, one of the centers of *Kimba the White Lion* fandom.

Furries of the live stage: If you find yourself in Los Angeles or Chicago, there's some furry theater you ought to check out. *Bark!* is a hit musical directed by **Kay Cole** that looks at life from a pet dog's point of view, in stories, song, and dance. Visit www.barkthemusical.com to find out more about tickets and show times.

Now on the shelves: Action! Adventure! Penguins! That's the motto of *Look! Volume 1: A Cheese-Related Mishap*, a new black & white graphic novel from **Ray Friesen** and **Don't Eat Any Bugs Productions** (gotta love a name like that). Melville the penguin [*What IS it with penguins lately? – ye ed-otter*] and a cast of several race to save the exploding cheese from hordes of ninja chickens. Uh huh.

New from Shanda Fantasy Arts is issue #1 of *Sword of the Fox*, a new black & white comic by **Carole Curtis**, **Shelley Pleger**, **George Chastain**, and **Mary Bellamy**. In a familiar old-time western setting, vigilante known as **The Fox** – who is a fox – battles the evil Commandante for the good of the common people. Also from SFA, look for *Extinctioners: The*

Andorozons One-Shot, new in black & white by **Ken Singshow, Karabineer, Shawntae Howard, and Eric Schwartz**. Heroic android animals battle bumbling evil cats in Ken Singshow's famous creation.

Space pets, what next? *The Adventures of Astrodog* is a new black & white comic by **A. Jaye and Alison Williams**, released by Stillwill Press. Young Jessica Trouble and her heroic dog Rocket work together to solve a mystery threatening the peaceful lives of the people of Luna City.

New from Dark Horse comics is *The Perhaponauts*, a full-color mini-series from **Todd DeZago (Tello)** and **Craig Rousseau**. In places where the fabric of reality has worn thin, evil beings from another dimension try to push on through – and it's up to the organization known as Beldam to push right back! Helping them out are a friendly Bigfoot and a smart-mouthed chupacabra – part of the team. More creepy stuff from Dark Horse: A famous Universal monster returns in his own novel, *The Wolf Man: Hunter's Moon* by **Jan Michael Friedman**. None other than Larry Talbot himself finds out he's trapped in a war between werewolf hunters and a mysterious werewolf cult.

Something all together different from Dark Horse this holiday season. *Jingle Belle: The Fight Before Christmas* is a new full-color one-shot comic by **Paul Dini, Stephanie Gladden, and Jose Garibaldi**. Santa's rebellious young daughter challenges her archrival, the snow leopard lady named Tashi, to a winner-take-all ice hockey match.

Speakeasy Comics presents the premier of *Strangeways*, a new black & white series by **Matt Maxwell and Luis Garana**, with a cover by **Steve Leiber (Road to Perdition)**. A tale of the Old West, but in this part of the territory, it's not rustlers or bandits you fear – it's werewolves! Speaking of which, look for *In the Blood* from Raw Entertainment and Boom! Studios. In this full-color miniseries by **Steve Niles and Josh Medors**, a high-school boy discovers that there's a reason his lust for violence and blood has been growing lately... Soon to be a major motion picture, the creators tell us.

Mr. Comics presents the return of Cornelius, Zira, Dr. Zaius, Caesar and other well-known apes. *Revolution on the Planet of the Apes* is a new full-color 6-issue miniseries following the intelligent apes in new stories by **Ty Templeton and Joe O'Brien**, illustrated by the likes of **Salgado Sam, Tom Fowler, Attila, and Denis Rodier**.

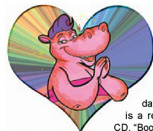
Babymouse is the young hero of a pair of kid-friendly black & white graphic novels by **Jennifer and Matthew Holm**, published by Random House. In *Babymouse: Our Hero!*, she's off to school to battle against the evil known as Dodgeball. In *Babymouse: Queen of the World*, a rich kid's slumber party leads to hopes of glamour and fears of turning away her friends.

Coming this January from Radio Comic's Sin Factory imprint is the premier of *Ice Queens*, a new black & white adult one-shot from **Terrie Smith** and "the Gang of Four", featuring a cover by **Dr. Comet**. Science-fiction intrigue and lusty ladies on an icy prison planet. Also in January look for the latest annual issue of *Genus Male* (#5), featuring art and stories by **John Barrett, Saty Q, Sara M. Williams, Christina Hanson, and J. K. Blacklin**.

Two well-known fantasy comics by **Rod Espinosa** have been collected as digest-manga trade paperbacks, released by Antarctic Press. *The Courageous Princess* follows the adventures of Princess Mabelrose and her talking porcupine, while *Neotopia* is a high-seas adventure of political intrigue and deception.

Sea Princess Azuri is a new black & white digest-sized manga, created by **Erica Reis**, coming soon from Tokyo Pop. Azuri, princess of the Orcans – whale-like mer-people – has a problem. She's betrothed to the prince of the Eel People, bringing hopes of peace between their nations. Trouble is, she's fallen in love with an Orcan guard! What's a princess to do? Meanwhile, there's more furry manga collections from Tokyo Pop: Sora and his friends Donald Duck and Goofy return in *Kingdom Hearts 2*, based on the hit PlayStation 2 video game coming in December from Square Enix. And also, Tokyo Pop is the home for the full-color comic book adaptation of Disney's *Chicken Little* (in theaters now, of course).

The sultan of the surreal? The Scandinavian artist known only as **Jason** has several collection books of his strange, wordless funny animal comics on the shelves, including *Sshhhh, Tell Me Something*, and *Iron Wagon*. Now comes *Meow Baby*, a collection of his shorter and more humorous pieces. It's published by Fantagraphics Books.



From the furry children's books department: *Bella Wishes* by **Tessa May Cacciatore** (illustrated by **Dave Rodriguez**) presents the adventures of Bella, a bright pink hippo who loves to belly dance. Included with the book is a read-along and dance-along CD, "Boogie with Bella". The purpose of all this (also advanced through Ms. Cacciatore's organization, World Trust Foundation) is to teach children of all ages good exercise and acceptance of all body types through belly dancing. In summer of 2006 comes a line of Bella-themed dancewear for kids; as well as a series of short animated segments of Bella dancing, to be run as breaks during various kids' TV programming. Check out www.carloumedia.com to find out more about all of this.

More books for kids... Juicy Coppertoos is the rather unusual name of a series of books teaching kids about wildlife and conservation the world over. *Who Goes With That Nose?* (created by **Michael Kobert, Dona Donato, and illustrator Laurie Fulleris**) is the first book in the series, where young Juicy travels the world learning about wild animals based on their body parts – usually, the sniffing ones! Proceeds from the sale of this and other books in the series will go to various wildlife conservation organizations. Find out more at www.juicycoppertoos.com. *The Adventures of Meow Meow and Friends*, written and illustrated by **Itsuko Tomonari**, teaches young children about the value of friendship and cooperation through the adventures of a kitten and his pals. It's available from New Age World Publishing at www.nawpublishing.com.

New from Atlas Books is *The Nine Lives of Romeo Crumb – Life One*, by **L. Rifkin**. This from their web site: "The secret world of cats is revealed in this epic tale of feline civil war, where we meet young Romeo, a stray who finds himself

battered between two very different worlds. It's the domestic cats, the Sticks, vs. the street cats, the Alleys, as battle lines are drawn, warriors train for combat and a hero emerges to inspire a nation. Fraught with danger from page one, Romeo loses his family at the claws of Fidel and his gang of vicious Alleys. After being rescued from the Pound, Romeo finds a new home with "his person", 9-year old Dennis Crumb. As long as Romeo stays inside with his adopted family he's safe, however, when he ventures out he finds danger lurking around every corner. *Life One* ends with Romeo's first death. But fear not, our hero-in-the-making lives again in *Life Two*. At the end of *Life Nine*, Romeo Crumb will be gone forever. Included in this 311-page book are many original black and white drawings by artist/illustrator **Kurt Hartman**, including ten full-page illustrations. Also, at the bottom of each page is a tiny black cat. If the reader flips the pages of the book from front to back, the cat runs through, thus creating a fun flipbook.

Harry the Incredible Skateboarding Bear is the title of an illustrated children's book by **David Giddings** and **Rick Erkeneff**, following the adventures (in verse) of a bear who's hot on X-treme sports. And now available is the sequel, *Harry Rips Australia*, where the bear has a go at surfing! It's all at www.harrythebear.com.

Tides by **Scott Mackay** is a new science fiction novel from Pyr, Science Fiction and Fantasy. On a far-off world, two races – one human-like and honest, one reptilian and deceitful – have never met each other, living on opposite sides of an ocean tossed with violent storms and massive tides. When a meeting finally does occur, both sides are going to learn a few harsh lessons...

Now might be the time to check out the *Warriors: The New Prophecy* series by **Erin Hunter** (from Harper Collins). The first book is called *Midnight*: "The wild cats of the forest have lived in peace and harmony for many moons – but a doom that will change everything is coming. Strange messages from their warrior ancestors speak of terrifying new prophecies, danger, and a mysterious destiny. All the signs point to young warrior Brambleclaw as the cat with the fate of the forest in his paws. But why would the son of wicked cat Tigerstar be chosen to be a hero? And who are the other cats mentioned in the prophecy? All Brambleclaw knows for sure is that the strength and courage of the greatest warriors will be needed now, as the quest to save the Clans begins." Also new from Harper Collins is *Puppy Returns* by **Avi**. The heroic mouse-lady named Poppy, now a mother, tries to deal with her teenaged son and her demanding parents at the same time in this comic adventure.

Urchin of the Riding Star is the title of the first book in the Mistmantle Chronicles by **M.J. McAllister** (illustrated by **Omair Ryann**), published by Miramax. Urchin, a young squirrel founding raised by rats and others, thinks he's found the opportunity of a lifetime when he becomes page to a dashing captain of the king's guard. Unfortunately, palace intrigues and treachery threaten not only the captain, but Urchin, the king and queen, and the kingdom itself!

Two artists well known for their dragon paintings have new collection books out now, both in hardcover. *The Book of the Dragon* by **Ciruelo** is a celebration of noble and dangerous dragons in myths and legends from throughout history. It's reprinted now by Paper Tiger Press, and available through Bud Plant. Meanwhile, **Rob Brown** has released *Dragon World* presents dragons (some of them anthropomorphic) in

a more playful mood and colorful settings. It's available from Browntrout Publishers.

No One Noticed the Cat. Now there's a title you're liable to notice, yes? From one of the grand dames of science fiction, **Anne McCaffrey**, comes a new novel of fantasy. As a wizard dies, some of his talents and wisdom are transferred into his loyal cat – who then attaches herself to the young prince the wizard had been advising. Good thing too, as the young prince may need all the help he can find to survive long enough to rule his kingdom! Published by Wildside Press, in paperback.

An unusual furry book, all right: With the help of **Graham Romieu**, Bigfoot himself, the sasquatch, writes his memoirs in *Me Write Book – The Autobiography of Bigfoot*. Find out what it's like to be bigger, hairier, and smellier than all those around you as this monster of the northwest gives his side of the story. It's published by Plume Books.

Oh look – more penguins! A famous one, in fact. Celebrating 25 years of gentle neuroses, **Berke Breathed** and Little Brown & Company bring us the new paperback version of *Opus: 25 Years of His Sunday Best*. Everyone's favorite "maladjusted penguin" in color strips collected from three decades of *Bloom County* and *Outland*.

Well-known animation fan and critic **Jerry Beck** brings us *The Animated Movie Guide* (in trade paperback from Chicago Review Press). Featuring entries on more than 300 films from nearly 80 years of cinema history, the book features 4-star ratings, plot synopses, running times, MPAA ratings and more.

Look for Walt Disney's *Mickey and the Gang – Classic Stories in Verse*, edited by **David Gerstein** and released by Gemstone Publishing. From *Previews* magalog: "From 1934 to 1944, *Good Housekeeping* magazine transformed Disney's latest Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, and Goofy cartoons into rollicking, rhyming short stories, each masterfully illustrated by watercolor artists **Tom Wood** and **Hank Porter**. Now all 124 of these legendary features are finally collected in one coffee-table size book. You'll see hundreds of rare cartoon story sketches by **Carl Barks** and others, previously-unreprinted **Floyd Gottfredson** comics, rare Mickey merchandise and much, much more." It's available in softcover and as a limited-edition hardcover.

New from Hyperion Books: *The Fashion Kitty Graphic Novel Volume 1*, by **Charise Mericle Harper**. Fashion kitty is a colorful superhero who fights for the fashion freedom of teen girls the world over. We don't make this stuff up, folks...

Fans of gods and goddesses and mythical beasts might want to check this out: Rosen Publishing Group presents a new full-color graphic novel series called *Graphic Mythology*, featuring illustrated versions of myths and legends from around the world. Included in the series are *African Myths*, *Chinese Myths*, *Greek Myths*, *Egyptian Myths*, *Meso-American Myths*, and *Roman Myths*.

New from White Wolf comes *Werewolf, the Forsaken: Blood of the Wolf*, an illustrated guidebook to surviving not only in the wild, but in the "civilized" urban jungle as well. Includes practical information on werewolf physiology, transformation tricks, regeneration, and much more.

This January, look for the *Dungeons and Dragons: Races of the Dragon* book in hardcover, from Wizards of the Coast. This from *Previews*: "In addition to exploring the fan-favorite kobold race, *Races of the Dragon* introduces two new races, dragonborn and spellscapes, provides information on half-dragons, and includes a wealth of cultural information".

Dragon fans should look for the new *Dragon Tarot* from Llewellyn Publications. This full-color card set features not only well-known European and Chinese dragons, but also Native American and Pacific Island designs, and more.

Meanwhile, fans of the anime show *Darkstalkers* might want to look for the new Felicia Door Poster by **Kevin Lau** and **Susan Luo**. 55 inches tall, it features the well-known cat-lady in an alluring pose (does she have any other kind?). Look for it at your local comic shop, from Udon Entertainment.

Michael Golden's Monster Portfolio is a new 10-plate portfolio of black and white art from "the master of detail". Giant lizards and monstrous apes in this new collection from the elusive artist **Michael Golden**, released by Image Comics.

Obituaries:

From the *Hollywood Reporter*: **Joe Ranft**, Pixar Animation Studios' head of story for more than a decade and a cornerstone of the company's creative team, died Tuesday, August 16, when the car he was riding in plunged into the ocean after running off the road in Mendocino County, Calif. He was 45. Ranft was a co-writer on 1995's *Toy Story*, for which he earned an Oscar nomination, and 1998's *A Bug's Life*. Before Pixar, he was a leading member of the story department at Walt Disney Feature Animation, where he was a writer on 1991's *Beauty and the Beast* and 1994's *The Lion King*. "Joe was an important and beloved member of the Pixar family, and his loss is of great sorrow to all of us and to the animation industry as a whole," the Emeryville, Calif.-based company said Wednesday. In addition to his work as a writer, Ranft performed the voices for numerous characters in Pixar features.

"Stitch not bad... Stitch... fluffy! - Stitch, alien, in Disney's *Lilo & Stitch* 2.

Furry Stuff has ConFurence Stuff! The original ConFurence General Store (for ConFurrences 0 - 10) has moved to the new Furry Stuff web portal. Check them out at www.furystuff.com to find out more - soon, pictures of what's available will be up on-line. Three of the popular ConFurence T-Shirt designs are still available for a limited time: "Furries in Force" (black on honey-color) by **Eric Schwartz** from CF7, "Furries in Love" (black and pink on grey) by **Rachael Cawley** from CF9, and "Sydney's World" (Sydney on a colored globe on green) by **Ken Sample** from CF10. Plus, a very few of **Mitch Beiro's** colorful "Furries in Space" T-shirts remain (write for sizes available). They also still offer the *ConFurence Seven Highlights Video*, as well as the brand new *ConFurence Eight - Music and Mirth* and *ConFurence Nine - Furries in Love* highlights videos too! And coming soon, a special combination video from CF5 and CF6! Not to mention many cool prints and extra Souvenir Books from past ConFurrences! To find a complete list, visit the Furry Stuff web site, or send them an SASE at: Furry Stuff, P.O. Box 1958, Garden Grove, CA 92642-1958.

Help us keep up with you! So, we hear you say, how do I keep up my **Subscription to In-Fur-Nation**? We're glad you asked! A subscription to *In-Fur-Nation* will bring you even more of what furry fans are looking for around the globe. Find out what to look for, and where to go! It's now brought right to your doorstep four times a year (winter, spring, summer, and fall), and still for just a whopping **\$5.00** for a year's subscription. That's right, for a year. Just send a check made out to "Furry Stuff" (and note it's for *In-Fur-Nation*), or heck, just send a \$5.00 bill in a darkened envelope. (Trust us, it's an old tradition in the zine community. It works). To subscribe, to find out more info, or to send us notes for our Furry News, write us at: In-Fur-Nation, P.O. Box 1958, Garden Grove, CA 92642-1958.

A Note to the staff members of our many Furry Conventions: Hey! We wanna help you get the word out! Having a cool-looking web site is a neat thing, but remember: There are still a significant number of fans out there (furry and otherwise) who don't use the World Wide Web, or who don't use it to it's full potential. For them, there's this cool old thing folks on the Internet call *Snail Mail*. That's where we come in! Send us information, and let us help you get the word out to over 1,000 furry fans, artists, dealers, and publishers in the U.S., Canada, Europe, Japan... Look below for our reasonable ad rates, and don't forget... send us text blurbs and you get in for free!

A Request to Our Readers: Hey, got a favorite comic or book store that carries your favorite furry titles, or that you wish would carry more? Give us their address! We'll send them a copy of *In-Fur-Nation* each quarter, and keep them abreast of the kind of comics and media that you would like to see on their shelves! Remember, they can't order it if they don't know it's out there! As an alternate: Know of any good comic zines or web sites that might be looking to trade issues?

Guess what? In-Fur-Nation is looking for Field Reporters! As an on-going feature, we're going to present profiles of furry creators and furry-oriented companies that are helping to promote products and media of interest to furry animal fans all over. So, like to help out? Know a comic book creator, animator, publisher, or other such person in the field who'd like to discuss what furries mean to them, or to the world? Talk to them, write down what they say... then give us a write-up, about 300-500 words, and we'll include it as a blurb in an upcoming INF, and give you credit for it. [We do maintain the right to edit for clarity and length, mind you.] And hey, we're looking for **furry convention reviews and anecdotes** too! Send hard copies to the Furry Stuff address above, or you can e-mail your submission to **Rod O'Reilly** at mink@firstlight.net.

Advertising in In-Fur-Nation: For those who've been asking, ads in *In-Fur-Nation* come in these sizes: 1/8-page "business card" size for \$5.00 per issue, and 1/4-page size (4 1/2" tall by 3 1/4" wide) for \$10.00 per issue. Full-page inclusions can also be arranged for \$50.00 an issue. Check should be made out to Furry Stuff. Send camera-ready art and text to P.O. Box 1958, Garden Grove, CA 92642-1958, or send email to mink@firstlight.net.

(Many thanks to *Previews* Magalog, and all the people who helped provide information for this issue both by mail and via Internet! Invaluable help was also received from the web masters of the various furry conventions out there.)

More Furry Conventions All Around!

Further Confusion A.D. 2005 – Renfur: A Knight's Tail

January 19th – 23rd, 2006, at ye olde Doubletree Hotel in San Jose, California. Furies in the Renaissance; that's the theme for 2006. Chivalry and knighthood, damsels and dragons... or damsels who are dragons...!

From the web site at www.furtherconfusion.org: "Further Confusion is one of the largest international conventions celebrating anthropomorphics in all its guises. With an attendance of over 1,400 and growing, it is one of the premiere events of its kind. Further Confusion includes charitable benefits, educational seminars, art shows, panels and general social activities. It was the first event sponsored by Anthropomorphic Arts and Education Inc. and continues to be its largest."

FC's Guests of Honor for 2006 include long-time furry artist and animator **Eric Elliot** (who has had many other occupations – check out the FC web site!), and fantasy/science fiction writer **Jane Lindskold** (author of the Firekeeper Saga: *Through Wolf's Eyes*, *Wolf's Head*, *Wolf's Heart*, *The Dragon of Despair*, *Wolf Captured*, and the forthcoming *Wolf Hunting*).

Membership at FC2005 start at **\$45.00** for full membership (five days!), and goes up to **\$100.00** for a Sponsorship and **\$200.00** for a patron membership (check out the web site for more details). Mail-in registration will only be accepted until December 30, 2005, so get yours in soon. Information on Dealer Tables, Artists Alley (The Furry Marketplace), and on-line registration can be found on the web site too. Or, you can write them at: Further Confusion Registration, 105 Serra Way PMB 236, Milpitas, CA 95035.

Rooms at the Doubletree Hotel (just a stone's throw from the San Jose Int'l Airport) are available for **\$89.00** a night (up to four furs). To make a reservation, please call (408) 453-4000. If you're using the phone, please use the Convention Code FURCON or FURTHER CONFUSION in making your reservations.

Furry Weekend Atlanta

February 17th thru 19th, 2006, in Atlanta, Georgia, USA

FWA welcomes Special Guest Artists **Bill Holbrook** (creator of *Kevin and Kell* and other comic strips) and **Matt Burt** (also known as the furry artist GunMOUTH). The official charity for FWA 2006 is the Ellijay Wildlife Rehabilitation Sanctuary, a 50-acre facility that medically cares for all species of orphaned and injured wildlife indigenous to Georgia and the southeast.

FWA 2005 will be held at the Holiday Inn Atlanta-Airport-North (1380 Virginia Avenue, Atlanta, GA 30344). The phone number is (404) 762-8411. Just mention "Furry Weekend" for a special room rate of only **\$67.00** a night!

Memberships at FWA2005 come in several levels, the most basic being an Attending Membership for **\$35.00** – by mail, until February 3rd, 2006. Attending memberships are **\$40.00** at the door. Supporting (non-attending) Memberships are also available for **\$15.00**, and various levels of Sponsorship are available too. Check the FWA web site at www.furryweekend.com for more information, or to download a registration pdf file.

Megaplex 5 – The Horror!

This year, we're saluting classic B-movies, especially the great horror flicks that came about during that time. Some of those films were shot right here in Florida. Megaplex 5 takes place March 17 - 19, 2006.

Megaplex 4 will be held at the Sheraton World Resort, 10100 International Drive Orlando, FL 32821. Rooms have been negotiated for "\$99 a night (plus 6.5% state sales tax and 5% occupancy tax). For Reservations, call (800) 327-0363 and use reservation code: MEGAPLEX. Register before February 17th for the convention rate! Resort services include Transportation to Walt Disney World Theme Parks and the Florida Mall. Sea World is within walking distance of the Hotel, and there is a nominal \$6 fee for transportation to Universal Studios.

Attending memberships are available now for \$35.00, with various levels of sponsorship available also. To find out more information on memberships and Special Guests (as they get it), visit the Megaplex web site at <http://ppmp.info>.

Don't Forget – Coming Soon: The Ursa Major Awards for 2005!

More formally known as the Annual Anthropomorphic Literature and Arts Award, the Ursa Major Award is presented annually for excellence in the furry arts. It is intended as Anthropomorphic (a.k.a. Furry) Fandom's equivalent of the Hugo Award © (presented by the World Science Fiction Society), mystery fandom's Anthony Award, horror fandom's Bram Stoker Award, and so forth.

Anyone may nominate. **Nominations** for 2005 works will open during January 2006. However, recommendations are now being accepted for inclusion in the 2005 Recommended Anthropomorphics List (available for viewing at www.ursamajorawards.com), which is being constantly updated. **Voting** for the 2005 Ursa Major Award will take place during the first half of 2006. Please contact us if you wish to receive a ballot (see below). The Award will be presented at Philprocon 2005 in Philadelphia in July.

To be eligible, a work must have been released between January 1 and December 31 of the calendar year for that award (in this case, 2005), and must include a non-human being given human attributes (anthropomorphic), which can be mental and/or physical (for example the intelligent rabbits in *Waterstep Down* for the former, and Bugs Bunny for the latter). Simply including an animal character is not sufficient to qualify. Nominations are not limited to items included on the Recommended Anthropomorphics List, which are simply some people's recommendations. Any works first published during the year under consideration are eligible.

To find out more about the Ursa Major Awards for 2004, visit the web site or send an SASE to: Ursu Major Award, c/o Rod O'Riley, P.O. Box 1958, Garden Grove, CA 92642-1958, U.S.A.

That's all for this time folks – and all for this year! We'll be back with our next issue bright and early in January of 2006. So look for us then! Keep up with the World Wide Furry Movement here in the pages of In-Fur-Nation!